



PATENT  
Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 08203.0030.01000

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: )  
)  
Frank BONADIO et al. ) Group Art Unit: 3743  
)  
Application No.: 10/600,812 ) Examiner: Camtu Tran NGUYEN  
)  
Filed: June 20, 2003 )  
)  
For: APPARATUS FOR USE IN )  
SURGERY AND A VALVE )

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**SUPPLEMENTAL PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Prior to examination, please further amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins at page 2 of this Amendment.

**Remarks** begin on page 13 of this Amendment.

12/13/2004 JADD01 00000078 10600812

01 FC:1201 200.00 OP  
02 FC:1202 750.00 OP